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REPORT OF THE  
ALAMEDA COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION  
AS AUGMENTED FOR THE STUDY OF THE AREA COMPRISING THE  
WASHINGTON UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROPOSED ALVISO, CENTERVILLE, IRVINGTON, NILES  
AND WARM SPRINGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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*[Alameda county. School department]*

*[California. Department of education. Division of public school administration. Bureau of school district organization]*

*School district reorganization Alameda co.*

This report has been prepared by the  
Alameda County Superintendent of Schools Office  
and the

Bureau of School District Organization  
State Department of Education  
at the request of the  
Alameda County Committee on  
School District Organization

August

1963





## COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

224 WEST WINTON AVENUE  
HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA

September 10, 1963

To: The California State Board of Education

Gentlemen:

We appreciate your giving us your reasons for being unable to approve our recommendations of April 1963 that the area of the Washington Union High School District be divided into three unified school districts. Copies of your letter of June 17 were sent to all school boards in the area and the issues you raised were the subject of three evening meetings last month.

The only official move attempted on the first evening, August 1, was a motion that the area of the Washington Union High School District be recommended to become one unified district, but this motion died for lack of a second. Consideration of the area was continued on the evening of August 7 and at this time a formal motion was approved to recommend that our earlier recommendations on the Newark area be resubmitted, together with such additional information as seemed desirable. On the third evening, August 29, motions were approved to resubmit our April 1963 recommendations that the area of Alvarado and Decoto School Districts become a unified district and that the area of Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles, and Warm Springs School Districts become a unified district.

This letter reports the action of the committee affecting the latter area and includes some additional information on the six questions raised by your letter of June 17 as they apply to it.

A motion was made by Ralph Van Nortwick and was seconded by Dr. Raymond D. Gurney, members of the Alameda County Committee on School District Organization, that the Augmented Alameda County Committee on School District Organization resubmit unchanged and in its entirety its original proposal that a unified school district be formed comprising the Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles and Warm Springs School Districts.

The following is a record of the vote on the motion:

| <u>COUNTY COMMITTEE MEMBERS</u> | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> | <u>ABSENT</u> |
|---------------------------------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Mrs. Dorothy Balangero          |            |           | x             |
| J. Ralph Baxter                 | x          |           |               |
| Frank J. Borghi, Jr.            | x          |           |               |
| Orland Close                    |            | x         |               |
| Godfrey A. Duncan               | x          |           |               |
| Dr. Raymond D. Gurney           | x          |           |               |

77 01217

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County Committee Members (Cont'd)

|                     | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> | <u>ABSENT</u> |
|---------------------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Roy B. Jensen       | x          |           |               |
| Mrs. Harriet Nathan |            |           | x             |
| Edward F. Newman    | x          |           |               |
| Leonard J. Paquette | x          |           |               |
| Ralph Van Nortwick  | x          |           |               |
| Subtotal            | 8          | 1         | 2             |

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

|                              |    |   |   |
|------------------------------|----|---|---|
| Alviso                       |    |   |   |
| Mrs. Isabelle Johnson        |    | x |   |
| Centerville                  |    |   |   |
| Elmer Wisenborn              | x  |   |   |
| Irvington                    |    |   |   |
| J. Ralph Baxter              | x  |   |   |
| Niles                        |    |   |   |
| Robert Ledeen                | x  |   |   |
| Warm Springs                 |    |   |   |
| Lucien J. Trudel             | x  |   |   |
| Washington Union High School |    |   |   |
| Wesley F. Sears              | x  |   |   |
| Subtotal                     | 5  | 1 | 0 |
| TOTAL                        | 13 | 2 | 2 |

The chairman declared the motion carried.

1. Size. This is not an issue in this division of the high school district area. Its total elementary and high school enrollment on March 29, 1963 was 20,411. However, the following table will indicate the relationship of its enrollment and assessed wealth to those of the remaining area and of the entire area of the Washington Union High School District:





| <u>Districts</u>                                                 | <u>Total<br/>Assess. Val.<br/>1962-63</u> | <u>K-12<br/>Enrollment<br/>March 29, 1963</u> |              |               | <u>Assess. Val. Per Pupil</u> |                 |                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                                                                  |                                           | <u>Elem.</u>                                  | <u>H.S.</u>  | <u>Total</u>  | <u>Elem.</u>                  | <u>H.S.</u>     | <u>Total</u>    |
|                                                                  |                                           |                                               |              |               |                               |                 |                 |
| Alviso                                                           | \$ 4,238,825                              | 628                                           |              |               | \$6,750                       |                 |                 |
| Centerville                                                      | 23,434,045                                | 3,683                                         |              |               | 6,363                         |                 |                 |
| Irvington                                                        | 42,425,145                                | 10,285                                        |              |               | 4,125                         |                 |                 |
| Niles                                                            | 9,043,270                                 | 1,287                                         |              |               | 7,027                         |                 |                 |
| Warm Springs                                                     | 4,382,360                                 | 446                                           |              |               | 9,826                         |                 |                 |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                                                    | <b>\$83,523,645</b>                       | <b>16,329</b>                                 | <b>4,082</b> | <b>20,411</b> | <b>5,115</b>                  | <b>\$20,461</b> | <b>\$ 8,184</b> |
| High School District<br>Area <u>excluding</u> above<br>districts | \$49,811,967                              | 7,627                                         | 1,899        | 9,526         | \$6,531                       | \$26,231        | \$10,458        |
| Total High School<br>District Area                               | \$133,335,612                             | 23,956                                        | 5,981        | 29,937        | \$5,556                       | \$22,293        | \$ 8,908        |

2. Disruption of the high school program. Change in school district organization is likely to be accompanied by some change in school program, whatever the grade level. Since the proposed unified school district now has two high schools and a third under construction, and since the area has many elementary schools, and further since the two divisions of the high school district not included in this proposal would also have a proportionate share of elementary and high schools, we do not feel that the change in the high school program could be considered "disruptive".

3. Perpetuation of inadequate unified districts. This objection is not an issue in this area.

4. One unified district. A tentative recommendation to form a single unified district comprising the area of the Washington Union High School District was made on May 31, 1962 by a vote of 14 to 5. After two public hearings had been held, the Augmented Committee at a study meeting on October 18, 1962 voted 16 to 2 to modify the tentative recommendation. This decision was reached despite a recommendation for one unified district made in a report prepared by Dr. Edgar L. Morphet and Dr. Theodore L. Reller of the University of California. Even this report, however, added a modifying statement to the recommendation for one large unified district in these words: "However, in view of the prospective growth trends, the district in a few years would become relatively large and, in the eyes of some, perhaps unwieldy. Once a district has attained a satisfactory size in population, there is no special advantage, and there may be some disadvantages, associated with further increases in population." This report had been in the hands of the members of the Augmented Committee for several months before its final decision was reached. It was the Committee's judgment, shown by the strong vote to modify its tentative recommendation, that the formation of a single unified district could not be anticipated. Further evidence of the impossibility of getting an affirmative vote to recommend one unified district of the entire area was developed in the meeting of August 1, when a motion was made to recommend

| District                                     | Total<br>Assess. Val.<br>1903-04 | Enrollment<br>Nov. 29, 1903 | Elem. H.S.<br>Total | Elem. H.S.<br>Total | Assess. Val. for 1904<br>Total |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Alameda                                      | \$ 4,218,852                     | 876                         | 876                 | 16,730              | 6,731                          |
| Alameda                                      | 13,614,045                       | 2,883                       | 2,883               | 4,133               | 7,027                          |
| Alameda                                      | 41,472,142                       | 10,283                      | 10,283              | 9,858               | 20,411                         |
| Alameda                                      | 7,043,270                        | 1,287                       | 1,287               | 2,113               | 2,113                          |
| Alameda                                      | 4,382,420                        | 448                         | 448                 | 2,113               | 2,113                          |
| TOTALS                                       | \$83,523,845                     | 16,329                      | 16,329              | 20,411              | 20,411                         |
| High School Districts<br>Area excluded above | \$47,611,907                     | 7,627                       | 7,627               | 9,216               | 9,216                          |
| Total High School<br>Districts Area          | \$135,935,612                    | 23,956                      | 23,956              | 29,627              | 29,627                         |

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September 10, 1963

the formation of such a district. The motion died for want of a second.

5. Fragmentation of the tax base. Fragmentation of the tax base is unavoidable when a high school district is divided. Whether such fragmentation is serious, however, depends upon whether it results in setting up islands of wealth or poverty. The table in section 1, above, shows that this would not be the case in the area under discussion. Further, while the high school tax base would be divided, the tax base for support of the elementary level of education would be considerably broadened by the formation of the proposed unified district.

6. Equalization of local wealth at the elementary level. The wealth per elementary pupil in the proposed unified district would not vary widely from the wealth per elementary pupil in the area as a whole nor from that of the rest of the area of the high school district. The same would be true of the wealth per high school pupil. Within the proposed district a significant degree of equalization would result. A range of from \$4,125 to \$9,826 per elementary pupil would be succeeded by an average wealth per elementary pupil of \$5,115.

We shall be grateful for your further consideration of our recommendations and hope that the information supplied with this letter will enable you to reach a favorable conclusion.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward F. Newman, Chairman

EFN:fwf





J. F. COAKLEY  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

OFFICE OF  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
ALAMEDA COUNTY  
COURT HOUSE  
OAKLAND 12, CALIFORNIA  
HIGHGATE 4-0507

R. ROBERT HUNTER  
CHIEF ASSISTANT

April 10, 1963

Alameda County Committee  
on School District Organization  
224 West Winton Avenue  
Hayward, California

Gentlemen:

RE: Formation of unified school districts comprising the following elementary school districts: (1) Newark; (2) Alvarado and Decoto; and (3) Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles and Warm Springs

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The County Superintendent of Schools of Alameda County has requested this office to examine the record of the procedures of your Committee in arriving at your recommendation to be made to the State Board of Education in this matter.

We have examined the record of the procedures of your Committee in arriving at your recommendation that unified school districts be formed comprising the following elementary school districts:

- (1) Newark;
- (2) Alvarado and Decoto; and
- (3) Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles and Warm Springs.

To the best of our knowledge your procedures comply with all the legal requirements of the Education Code of the State of California.

Very truly yours,

J. F. COAKLEY  
District Attorney

By

Thomas E. Firby  
Thomas E. Firby  
Assistant

TEF:gk





ALAMEDA COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Augmented for the Study of the Area Comprising the  
Washington Union High School District

The County Committee:

Edward F. Newman  
Roy B. Jensen  
Mrs. Dorothy Balangero  
J. Ralph Baxter  
Frank J. Borghi, Jr.  
Godfrey Duncan  
Mrs. Harriet Nathan  
Leonard J. Paquette  
Philip Silver  
Ralph Van Nortwick  
Raymond D. Gurney  
Rock La Fleche

Chairman  
Vice Chairman  
Member

"  
"  
"  
"  
"  
"  
"

Superintendent of Schools  
and ex-officio Secretary  
of the County Committee

School District Trustees

Washington Union High School District

Frank J. Borghi, Jr.  
Wesley F. Sears  
Paul Gygax  
M. J. Bernardo  
Gordon E. Dickerson

Decoto School District

Joseph Seoane, Jr.  
Mrs. Gail Pagan  
James W. Celcer  
S. R. "Stan" Richards  
Harry K. Spooner

Alvarado School District

Wilbert Hendricks  
William Machado  
George Vargas

Irvington School District

John R. Gomes  
J. Ralph Baxter  
C. P. Catlin  
Allan R. Hirsch  
Abe N. Holden

Alviso School District

Herman Lambrecht  
Leonard George  
Donald G. Glankler  
Isabelle Johnson  
William Wallace

Newark School District

Luther Emmett  
Gene Savaria  
Louis Caldeira  
Roy B. Jensen  
Harry S. Lewis

Centerville School District

Mrs. Mary G. Rodrigues  
Elmer Wiesenborn  
Elsworth G. Finlay  
Claire Lopez  
Dr. Holger Rasmussen

Niles School District

Joseph Jeno  
Linton Vorwerck  
Francis Winkel  
Walter Hughes  
Robert Ledeen

Warm Springs School District

Lucien J. Trudel  
Orville J. Leitch  
Antone Vargas





# OUTLINE MAP OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA SHOWING COUNTIES AND COUNTY SEATS

WITH CODE NUMBERS ASSIGNED TO COUNTIES  
IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER



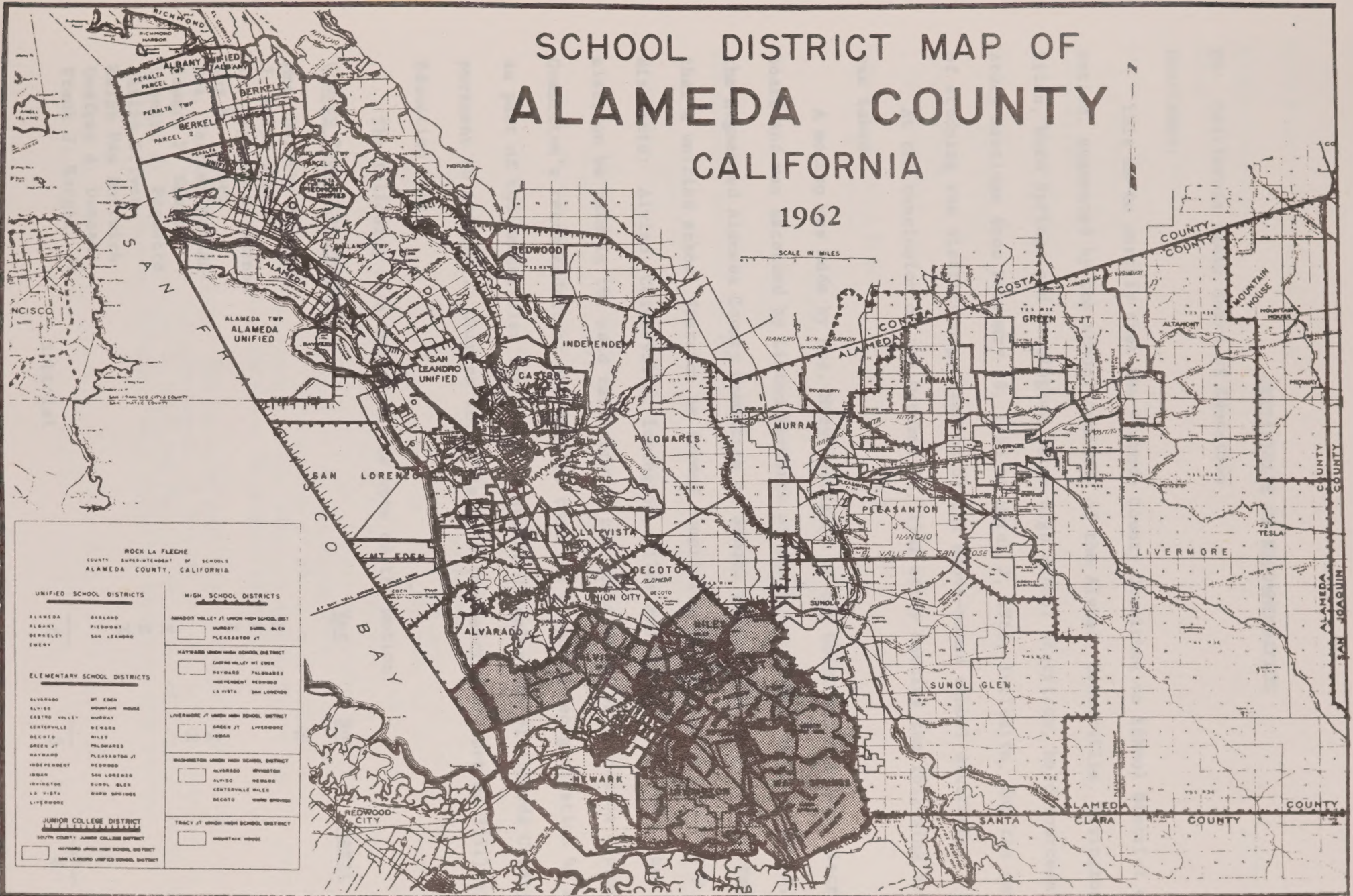




# SCHOOL DISTRICT MAP OF ALAMEDA COUNTY CALIFORNIA

1962

SCALE IN MILES  
0 1 2



● PROPOSED ALVISO, CENTERVILLE, IRVINGTON, NILES AND WARM SPRINGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT







# CERTIFICATE OF RECOMMENDATION

TO: California State Board of Education

Gentlemen:

This is to certify that the Alameda County Committee on School District Organization, augmented by the school trustees of the Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles, Warm Springs and Washington Union High School Districts, held fourteen study meetings from February 26, 1958 to March 7, 1963, inclusive, for the purpose of studying the district organization of the above-named school districts.

At the conclusion of the October 18, 1962 study meeting the following action was taken:

A motion was made by Mrs. Mary Rodrigues of the Centerville School District Board and was seconded by Linton Vorwerck of the Niles School District Board, that the Augmented Alameda County Committee on School District Organization recommend that a unified school district be formed comprising the following elementary school districts: Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles and Warm Springs; and that an election be held in the said territory if the State Board of Education approves the Committee's recommendation; and further that the proposed reorganization be submitted as part of the Master Plan for School District Organization of Alameda County, pursuant to Article 2, Chapter 10, Division 5 (commencing at Section 3551) of the Education Code.

The following is a record of the vote on the motion:

| <u>County Committee Members</u> | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Absent</u> |
|---------------------------------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Mrs. Dorothy Balangero          |            | X         |               |
| J. Ralph Baxter                 | X          |           |               |
| Dr. Raymond D. Gurney           | X          |           |               |
| Roy B. Jensen                   | X          |           |               |
| Mrs. Harriet Nathan             |            | X         |               |
| Edward F. Newman                |            | X         |               |
| Leonard J. Paquette             | X          |           |               |
| Philip Silver                   | X          |           |               |
| Ralph Van Nortwick              | X          |           |               |
| Godfrey A. Duncan               |            |           | X             |
| Frank J. Borghi, Jr.            |            |           | X             |
| Subtotal                        | 6          | 3         | 2             |





| <u>School Districts</u> | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Absent</u> |
|-------------------------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Alviso                  |            |           |               |
| Leonard George          | X          |           |               |
| Niles                   |            |           |               |
| Linton Vorwerck         | X          |           |               |
| Centerville             |            |           |               |
| Dr. Holger Rasmussen    | X          |           |               |
| Irvington               |            |           |               |
| J. Ralph Baxter         | X          |           |               |
| Warm Springs            |            |           |               |
| Orvel Gibson            | X          |           |               |
| Washington Union High   |            |           |               |
| G. E. Dickerson         | <u>X</u>   | <u>—</u>  | <u>—</u>      |
| Subtotal                | <u>6</u>   | <u>0</u>  | <u>0</u>      |
| Total                   | 12         | 3         | 2             |

The chairman declared the motion carried.

The Augmented County Committee as named above unanimously made the following recommendations, as shown in the minutes of the March 7, 1963 meeting:

1. Trustees. The governing board of the proposed unified school district shall consist of seven members elected by the voters of the entire school district.
2. Trustee Areas. There shall be five trustee areas. Trustee Area #1 shall be comprised of the territory of the Alviso School District and one member of the governing board shall have residence in Trustee Area #1. Trustee Area #2 shall be comprised of the territory of the Niles School District and one member of the governing board shall have residence in Trustee Area #2. Trustee Area #3 shall be comprised of the territory of Centerville School District and two members of the governing board shall have residence in Trustee Area #3. Trustee Area #4 shall be comprised of the territory of the Irvington School District and two members of the governing board shall have residence in Trustee Area #4. Trustee Area #5 shall be comprised of the territory of the Warm Springs School District and one member of the governing board shall have residence in Trustee Area #5.
3. Maximum Tax Rate. The maximum permissive tax rate shall be that which will produce the same amount of revenue for the unified district as would be produced by applying the present legal maximum tax rates in the component districts as provided in Education Code Section 3130.





- 5(a) Division of Funds and Obligations. All funds and obligations of the Washington Union High School District shall be apportioned to the unified school district in the same proportion as the assessed valuation of the unified school district bears to the total assessed valuation of the Washington Union High School District as provided in Education Code Section 3359.

All funds which may accrue to, and all obligations which may attach to the existing Washington Union High School District following the date upon which the unified district becomes effective for all purposes, and any adjustments in funds and obligations known or believed to exist on the date when the unified district becomes effective for all purposes shall be apportioned to the unified district on the basis of the proportion which the assessed valuation of the unified district bears to that of the Washington Union High School on the date when the unified district takes effect for all purposes.

- 5(b) Use and Division of School Property. The current value of personal property of the Washington Union High School District as determined by a professional appraiser shall be apportioned to the unified school district in the same proportion as the Kindergarten through grade 12 regular day students residing in the unified district, as of the March 31 enrollment reports immediately preceding the date on which the new unified district becomes effective for all purposes, bears to such enrollment in all of the Washington Union High School District, and its component elementary school districts, to be adjusted on the basis of the following provisions:

- (1) Personal property that is normally used and housed in each high school in the proposed unified district, as of March 31 immediately preceding the date on which the new unified district becomes effective for all purposes, shall become the property of the unified school district.
- (2) The net value of the funds and obligations of the Washington Union High School District assigned to the unified district under the provisions of paragraph 5(a), above, shall be considered in computing the proportionate share of the personal property assigned to the new unified district except that funds and obligations accruing or attaching to the Washington Union High School District after, or adjustments in funds or obligations known or believed to exist on, the date when the unified district takes effect for all purposes shall not be considered in computing the proportionate share of personal property of the Washington Union High School District assignable to the unified district.
- (3) All other personal property of the Washington Union High School District shall be divided so as to provide for the apportionment to the unified district on the basis of enrollment formula provided for above.

6. Location of Schools. No recommendation is made on this subject.

A motion was made by Robert Ledeen, a member of the Niles School District Board, and seconded by J. Ralph Baxter, a member of the Alameda County Committee on School District Organization, that the following recommendation be made:

4. Assumption of Bonded Debt. The bonded indebtedness shall remain the obligation of the territory that incurred it.







Certificate of Recommendation

-4

The following is a record of the vote on that motion:

| <u>County Committee Members</u>       | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Absent</u> |
|---------------------------------------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Mrs. Dorothy Balangero                |            |           | X             |
| J. Ralph Baxter                       | X          |           |               |
| Frank J. Borghi, Jr.                  | X          |           |               |
| Godfrey A. Duncan                     | X          |           |               |
| Dr. Raymond D. Gurney                 | X          |           |               |
| Roy B. Jensen                         | X          |           |               |
| Mrs. Harriet Nathan                   | X          |           |               |
| Edward F. Newman                      | X          |           |               |
| Leonard J. Paquette                   | X          |           |               |
| Philip Silver                         | X          |           |               |
| Ralph Van Nortwick                    | X          |           |               |
| Subtotal                              | 10         | 0         | 1             |
| <u>School Districts</u>               |            |           |               |
| Alviso                                |            |           |               |
| Mrs. Isabelle Johnson                 | X          |           |               |
| Centerville                           |            |           |               |
| Elmer Wiesenborn                      |            | X         |               |
| Irvington                             |            |           |               |
| C. P. Catlin                          | X          |           |               |
| Niles                                 |            |           |               |
| Robert Ledeen                         | X          |           |               |
| Warm Springs                          |            |           |               |
| Lucien J. Trudel                      |            | X         |               |
| Washington Union High School District |            |           |               |
| Gordon E. Dickerson                   | X          |           |               |
| Subtotal                              | 4          | 2         | 0             |
| Total                                 | 14         | 2         | 1             |

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

The Augmented Alameda County Committee on School District Organization considered the present and possible future ethnic composition of the residents of the territory included in the proposed unified school district and in the territory adjacent to it and it was their judgment that the proposed new district will not place obstacles in the way of achieving racial integration in the schools.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Edward F. Newman, Chairman

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Rock La Fleche, Superintendent of  
Schools of Alameda County,  
Ex-officio Secretary





NOTE: The final recommendations of the Augmented County Committee were preceded by tentative recommendations made at the meeting of May 31, 1962. A motion for a tentative recommendation to unify the area of the Washington Union High School District and its component elementary school districts as a single unified district was made by Dr. Gordon E. Dickerson of the Washington Union High School District Board and was seconded by Albert J. Diaz of the Alviso School District Board. The vote on this motion was as follows:

| <u>County Committee Members</u>       | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Absent</u> |
|---------------------------------------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Mrs. Dorothy Balangero                | X          |           |               |
| J. Ralph Baxter                       | X          |           |               |
| Frank J. Borghi, Jr.                  | X          |           |               |
| Godfrey A. Duncan                     | X          |           |               |
| Dr. Raymond D. Gurney                 | X          |           |               |
| Roy B. Jensen                         |            | X         |               |
| Mrs. Harriet Nathan                   | X          |           |               |
| Leonard J. Paquette                   | X          |           |               |
| Philip Silver                         | X          |           |               |
| Ralph Van Nortwick                    | X          |           |               |
| Edward F. Newman                      |            |           | X             |
| Subtotal                              | 9          | 1         | 1             |
| <u>School Districts</u>               |            |           |               |
| Washington Union High School District |            |           |               |
| Gordon E. Dickerson                   | X          |           |               |
| Newark                                |            |           |               |
| Harry S. Lewis                        |            | X         |               |
| Decoto                                |            |           |               |
| James W. Celcer                       |            | X         |               |
| Centerville                           |            |           |               |
| Elmer Wiesenborn                      |            | X         |               |
| Warm Springs                          |            |           |               |
| Orvel Gibson                          |            | X         |               |
| Niles                                 |            |           |               |
| Donald Bragg                          | X          |           |               |
| Irvington                             |            |           |               |
| Abe N. Holden                         | X          |           |               |
| Alvarado                              |            |           |               |
| George Vargas                         | X          |           |               |
| Alviso                                |            |           |               |
| Albert Diaz                           | X          |           |               |
| Subtotal                              | 5          | 4         | 0             |
| Total                                 | 14         | 5         | 1             |

The chairman declared the motion carried.





The public hearing required by Education Code Sections 3113(e), 3113.5, and 3108.5 was held on July 19, 1962, at the Washington High School, 38442 Fremont Blvd., Fremont. Statements favoring the proposed unification were made by Mrs. Patricia Sutton of the League of Women Voters; and Dr. Gordon E. Dickerson, a member of the Washington Union High School District Board.

Statements opposing the formation of a single unified district of the area of the Washington Union High School District, but supporting the formation of two unified districts of the area of the Washington Union High School District, specifically asking that the area of Decoto, Alvarado, and Newark School Districts, and the portion of Alviso School District west of the Nimitz Freeway be recommended as one of the two unified districts, were made by the following persons and organizations; Dr. Harold Schoenfeld, Superintendent, Decoto School District; Decoto Home Owners Association; Union City Chamber of Commerce, represented by Bernie R. Joseph; Holly Sugar Corporation, represented by J. A. Ratekin; Pacific States Steel Corporation; Latin American Political Club of Union City, represented by Leo J. Alvelais; Fairway Park Merchants Association, represented by William Clark; Citizens Committee for Unification of the Decoto School District, represented by John DeClercq; Decoto School District Board of Trustees; Decoto-Alvarado Teachers Association, represented by Raymond E. Farley; Union City Merchants' Association, represented by Alphonso Rodrigues; Union City Taxpayers Association, represented by E. C. Rivera; Union City Council, represented by Tom Kitayama; Milton H. Salz, represented by Mrs. Irene Vis.

Statements opposing the formation of a single unified school district or division of the area into two unified school districts, but supporting its division into three unified districts, and specifically asking that the area of Newark School District be recommended as one of the three proposed unified school districts, were made by: Mrs. C. Kincaid, Newark Women's Improvement Club; Clark W. Redeker, representing the Newark City Council; Jack MacGregor, Superintendent of Newark School District; and Gordon Cotton, representing the Newark Chamber of Commerce.

Statements favoring the formation of three unified districts, conforming as closely as possible to the three cities of Fremont, Union City and Newark, were made by Wesley Sears, a member of the Washington Union High School District Board; and Mrs. Shirley Buschke, a resident of Newark.

Statements expressing opposition to any form of unification at this time were made by Dr. Holger Rasmussen, a member of the Centerville School District Board; and R. P. Cunningham, a resident of Irvington School District.

A second public hearing was held on October 18, 1962, at the Washington High School, 38442 Fremont Blvd., Fremont. Statements favoring the formation of a single unified district of the area of the high school district were made by James Nunes, Superintendent of Alviso School District, representing the Board of that district; Dr. Gordon E. Dickerson, a member of the Board of Washington Union High School District; and Dr. Edward Kaye, a resident of Fremont, who said as a second choice he would favor dividing the area into two unified districts.







A statement favoring the division of the area into three unified districts (1) Decoto-Alvarado, (2) Newark, (3) Alviso-Centerville-Irvington-Niles-Warm Springs, was submitted in writing by the governing board of Warm Springs School District.

Statements favoring the formation of two unified districts (1) Decoto-Alvarado-Newark-Alviso west of the Nimitz Freeway, (2) Alviso east of Nimitz Freeway-Centerville-Irvington-Niles-Warm Springs, were made by Dr. Harold Schoenfeld, Superintendent of Decoto School District, representing its Board; and Joseph Seoane, Jr., a member of the Decoto School District Board.

A statement favoring the formation of a unified district conforming as nearly as possible to the city of Fremont was made by Maurice B. Marks, a resident of Fremont. A statement favoring the formation of a unified district of the area of the Newark School District was made by Jack MacGregor, Superintendent of Newark School District.





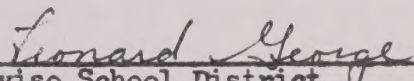
STATEMENT IN FAVOR OF THE FORMATION OF A UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT WITHIN THE GENERAL AREA OF THE CITY OF FREMONT

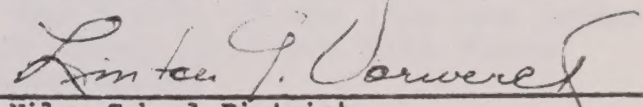
The proposed unification of the Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles and Warm Springs elementary districts and that portion of the Washington Union High School District within the boundaries of these five elementary districts is advantageous educationally, economically and sociologically to the residents of this area.

Educationally, it provides for the needs of children from kindergarten through grade twelve. It provides for an integrated program under the leadership of one administration and one Board of Education. The area involved composes an ideal size for a unified district. In 1964 the student population will exceed 22,000 in the twelve grades and kindergarten. It will provide for equal educational opportunities for all children living within the same city.

Economically, unification will be advantageous to the great majority of taxpayers residing within the area. Present zoning by the City of Fremont indicates that nearly all future industrial and commercial growth will be in two of the five elementary districts. Unification will broaden the tax base so that all areas will benefit from these new tax income sources. Unification will do away with duplication of various services now being provided by the individual districts and will provide for proper placement of new school plants.

Sociologically, this unification will unite an established community which is basically the City of Fremont, rather than the five separate school districts now in existence in this area. A school district with community identity attracts the highest type of teaching personnel to educate the youth of the community.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alviso School District

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Niles School District





# *League of Women Voters of Fremont*

P. C. BOX 447 • FREMONT, CALIFORNIA • TELEPHONE SYCAMORE 3-3815

April 5, 1963

State Board of Education  
Sacramento, California

Dear Sirs:

The League of Women Voters of Fremont would like to direct your attention to our letter of May 31, 1962, to the Augmented County Committee on School District Organization during their consideration of unification alternatives for the Washington Union High School District, Alameda County.

We would like to reaffirm our opposition to the three unification proposals that have been submitted to you. We are opposed to these proposals because we believe that total unification would be a more adequate solution to the problem of providing a quality education for all children in the area during a time of tremendous growth.

We are particularly concerned over the effect of these proposals upon the high school program and plant utilization. At the present time, the Washington Union High School District has great flexibility in pupil assignment. The proposed Newark and Alvarado-Decoto districts would have fewer high school pupils than the capacity of the two plants located within their boundaries. The major influx of students will continue to be in the proposed Warm Springs-Irvington-Niles-Centerville district. Until the growth of the area has become stabilized, splitting the high school district into three unified districts would be undesirable.

We sympathize with those who wish to strengthen city identity by a pattern of unifications along the general boundaries of the three incorporated areas. We believe, however, that the object of any school district reorganization should be to provide the frame-work for the best possible educational program. We do not believe that the three proposals under consideration will accomplish this.

Very truly yours,

*Patricia Sutton*

Patricia Sutton  
Chairman, Unification Study





# *League of Women Voters of Fremont*

P. O. BOX 447 • FREMONT, CALIFORNIA • TELEPHONE SYCAMORE 3-3815

May 31, 1962

The Augmented County Committee  
on School District Organization  
Alameda County, California

Dear Members of the Committee:

The League of Women Voters of Fremont has been studying the reorganization of school districts in Washington Township for the past four years. Last fall the League adopted a position in support of the general principle of unification, and agreed upon certain criteria to be used in evaluating particular proposals for unification.

We ask that you give special notice to our evaluation of Dr. Morphet's report for several reasons. First of all, the League membership represents a fair cross-section of the community within the area of study. Members who live in the Centerville, Irvington, Newark, and Niles school districts participated in our consensus determination. Secondly, the League of Women Voters of Fremont is a highly qualified lay group to render an opinion on unification proposals. We have spent a great deal of time and energy making a very thorough study of unification and the present school organization. Our study has included information on the state, county and local levels of responsibility for education; details on public school financing; the pros and cons of unification; special attention to what has happened in districts after unification; the mechanics of reorganization; and a League survey of the school districts in Washington Township.

The League was gratified to note the similarities between our survey made over a year ago and the current report of Dr. Morphet and his associates. The League study revealed six important points which we would like to emphasize to you tonight:

- 1 - vast differences in district enrollment, financial resources, tax rates, and costs per pupil;
- 2 - a difference among the districts in their approach to the problem of class organization;
- 3 - a variation in the presentation of the educational program;
- 4 - a need for better articulation between elementary and secondary levels;
- 5 - a high proportion of non-certificated personnel to teaching staff in the small districts; and
- 6 - a spectacular increase in a.d.a. in many of the districts during the year of our survey.

The reason that we are informing you in some detail about the League study is because we wish to stress the fact that the League of Women Voters of Fremont was thoroughly acquainted with all of this background information before Dr. Morphet's final report was released.





The third reason the League asks for special consideration of our viewpoint is that the scope of our study charged us to come to a conclusion which would provide the most equitable solution for ALL of the children in Washington Township. Unlike other groups who may appear before you, the League of Women Voters of Fremont based its consensus upon a responsibility to ALL of the children in the area of study, not just the children in a particular city or in a particular school district.

The League rejected Alternate Two-A because it did not meet our criteria well enough, except in the area of community identity. We found that we could support Alternate Two as being better than the present school organization, but Alternate Two did not satisfy League criteria as adequately as Alternate One.

The League of Women Voters of Fremont asks the members of the augmented County Committee to recommend the formation of one unified district along the boundaries of the Washington Union High School District. The League believes that Alternate One would be the best pattern because it would allow the benefits of unification to be more fully realized now. We believe that splitting the area into two or three unified districts would render each less effective than one larger district for least five years or longer. One district with the financial resources of the entire area would be better able to meet the problem of providing a quality educational program for all of the children in the area.

The League was particularly concerned over the effect of any other pattern upon the high school program and plant utilization. During the first few years the average daily attendance on the high school level in the Alvarado-Alviso-Decoto-Newark district would be at least several hundred less than the Washington Union High School District is presently planning to send to the Logan and Newark high schools. In the beginning, this difference may be as much as 800 students. What this means is that either the attendance load at the Washington and Irvington high schools will have to be increased by several hundred, or that several hundred students living in the Fremont unified district would have to attend Logan or Newark for several years under an inter-district agreement. Either of these alternatives would seem to defeat the purpose of unification. Unification should assure high school students of a quality education program as well as improve educational opportunity on the elementary level. Unification should not be responsible for making a sound high school program more difficult to attain than under the present system.

The League realizes that Alternate One will not satisfy the desire of citizens in the three cities in the Township for school districts that reflect city boundaries somewhat. However, the League found that Alternate Two did not resolve the problem of community identity. The northern part of the Township does not represent a community unit as defined under Article 15.7 of the California Administrative Code, outlining





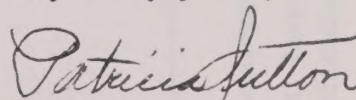
School District Organization Standards. In addition, Alternate Two would split the city of Fremont between the two districts, since part of that city separates the cities of Newark and Union City, and completely surrounds the city of Newark.

The League believes that Alternate One satisfies community identity because it would create a unified district along the boundaries of the existing Washington Union High School District. The boundaries would also be similar to several other governmental agencies which include most of the general area: the Alameda County Water District, the Union Sanitary District, and the Washington Township Hospital District.

Although Alternate One would create a large district with a large enrollment, the League does not believe that the size of the area or the number of students determines the amount of local control exercised. Attendance by the general public at school board meetings in Washington Township is virtually non-existent. The official League of Women Voters observer is often the only member of the public present at board meetings in some of the districts; and even we do not send an observer to all nine of the boards. The size of the district does not reflect the amount of local control. It is the responsibility of the people to be interested in their district, large or small, and to be aware of what is going on in their schools. The League believes that one large district in the area would be more likely to have public attention focused upon it by the press; and if the people display a high degree of interest, local control can be maintained more effectively than in two or three smaller unified districts.

The League of Women Voters of Fremont respectfully asks you to consider our evaluation of Dr. Morphet's report; and we urge you to adopt a tentative recommendation which would create one unified district within the boundaries of the Washington Union High School District as outlined under Alternate One.

Very truly yours,



Patricia Sutton  
School Study Chairman

Mrs. Robert E. Sutton  
314 Washburn Drive  
Fremont, California





TABLE 1

Average Daily Attendance by Existing School Districts in the  
Proposed Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles, Warm Springs Unified School District  
From 1953-54 Through 1961-62

| Name of School District    | Average Daily Attendance by School Year |         |         |         |         | March 1963<br>Enrollment |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------------|
|                            | 1953-54                                 | 1955-56 | 1957-58 | 1959-60 | 1961-62 |                          |
| Elementary Districts       |                                         |         |         |         |         |                          |
| Alviso                     | 102                                     | 93      | 255     | 474     | 570     | 628                      |
| Centerville                | 646                                     | 1,362   | 1,788   | 2,383   | 3,182   | 3,683                    |
| Irvington                  | 434                                     | 1,197   | 2,217   | 4,574   | 8,042   | 10,285                   |
| Niles                      | 676                                     | 888     | 1,057   | 1,154   | 1,200   | 1,287                    |
| Warm Springs               | 92                                      | 115     | 96      | 102     | 206     | 446                      |
| Totals                     | 1,950                                   | 3,655   | 5,413   | 8,687   | 13,200  | 16,329                   |
| High School District Total | 1,024                                   | 1,533   | 2,328   | 3,348   | 5,032   | 5,981                    |





TABLE 1

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Proposed Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles, Warm Springs Unified School District  
From 1953-54 Through 1961-62

| Name of School District    | Average Daily Attendance by School Year |         |         |         |         | March 1963<br>Enrollment |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------------|
|                            | 1953-54                                 | 1955-56 | 1957-58 | 1959-60 | 1961-62 |                          |
| Elementary Districts       |                                         |         |         |         |         |                          |
| Alviso                     | 102                                     | 93      | 255     | 474     | 570     | 628                      |
| Centerville                | 646                                     | 1,362   | 1,788   | 2,383   | 3,182   | 3,683                    |
| Irvington                  | 434                                     | 1,197   | 2,217   | 4,574   | 8,042   | 10,285                   |
| Niles                      | 676                                     | 888     | 1,057   | 1,154   | 1,200   | 1,287                    |
| Warm Springs               | 92                                      | 115     | 96      | 102     | 206     | 446                      |
| Totals                     | 1,950                                   | 3,655   | 5,413   | 8,687   | 13,200  | 16,329                   |
| High School District Total | 1,024                                   | 1,533   | 2,328   | 3,348   | 5,032   | 5,981                    |





TABLE 2

Enrollment by Grades in the Existing Districts  
as of March 29, 1963

| Name of<br>School Dist.     | Kinder-<br>garten | 1     | 2     | 3     | 4     | 5     | 6     | 7     | 8     | Specials | 9     | 10    | 11    | 12  | Total  |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|--------|
| Alviso                      | 90                | 93    | 87    | 76    | 68    | 62    | 56    | 47    | 49    |          |       |       |       |     | 628    |
| Centerville                 | 467               | 463   | 420   | 433   | 412   | 427   | 364   | 328   | 356   | 13       |       |       |       |     | 3,683  |
| Irvington                   | 1,501             | 1,330 | 1,331 | 1,191 | 1,104 | 1,055 | 934   | 883   | 850   | 106      |       |       |       |     | 10,285 |
| Niles                       | 162               | 156   | 174   | 149   | 130   | 132   | 134   | 131   | 119   |          |       |       |       |     | 1,287  |
| Warm Springs                | 74                | 68    | 50    | 56    | 37    | 40    | 47    | 38    | 36    |          |       |       |       |     | 446    |
| High School<br>Students     |                   |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       | 16       | 1,317 | 1,196 | 990   | 563 | 4,082  |
| Total                       | 2,294             | 2,110 | 2,062 | 1,905 | 1,751 | 1,716 | 1,535 | 1,427 | 1,410 | 135      | 1,317 | 1,196 | 990   | 563 | 20,411 |
| Total High<br>School Dist.* |                   |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       | 51       | 1,919 | 1,736 | 1,435 | 840 | 5,981  |

\* Totals per grade include special education classes





TABLE 3

Assessed Valuation Data and School District Tax Rates for 1962-63  
by Existing School Districts in the  
Proposed Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles, Warm Springs Unified School District

| Name of<br>School<br>District | Total<br>Assessed<br>Valuation | Assessed<br>Valuation<br>Per Pupil* | Tax Levied For |                        |                         |                                 |                            |                 |                          |                             | Total<br>Tax<br>Rate |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
|                               |                                |                                     | Elem.<br>Bonds | State<br>Loan<br>Elem. | High<br>School<br>Bonds | State<br>Loan<br>High<br>School | Junior<br>College<br>Bonds | Elem.<br>Budget | High<br>School<br>Budget | Junior<br>College<br>Budget |                      |
| Alviso                        | \$ 4,238,825                   | \$ 6,750                            | .42            |                        | .416                    | .05                             | ---                        | 2.04            | 1.40                     | .3637                       | 4.6897               |
| Centerville                   | 23,434,045                     | 6,363                               | .44            | .18                    | .416                    | .05                             | ---                        | 1.25            | 1.40                     | .3637                       | 4.0997               |
| Irvington                     | 42,425,145                     | 4,125                               | .49            | .01                    | .416                    | .05                             | ---                        | 1.90            | 1.40                     | .3637                       | 4.6297               |
| Niles                         | 9,043,270                      | 7,027                               | .48            | .17                    | .416                    | .05                             | ---                        | 2.16            | 1.40                     | .3637                       | 5.0397               |
| Warm Springs                  | 4,382,360                      | 9,826                               | .56            |                        | .416                    | .05                             | ---                        | 2.02            | 1.40                     | .3637                       | 4.8097               |
| Total                         | \$83,523,645                   | \$ 5,115                            |                |                        |                         |                                 |                            |                 |                          |                             |                      |
| Total High<br>School Dist.    | \$133,335,612                  | \$22,293                            |                |                        |                         |                                 |                            |                 |                          |                             |                      |

\* Using March 1963 enrollment.





TABLE 4

Current Expenditures Per Unit of Average Daily Attendance  
 By Existing School Districts in the Proposed  
 Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles, Warm Springs Unified School District  
 From 1953-54 Through 1961-62

| Name of School District | Current Expenditure Per Unit of A.D.A. |           |           |           |           |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                         | 1953-54                                | 1955-56   | 1957-58   | 1959-60   | 1961-62   |
| Elementary Districts    |                                        |           |           |           |           |
| Alviso                  | \$ 261.74                              | \$ 320.53 | \$ 233.23 | \$ 291.03 | \$ 335.35 |
| Centerville             | 204.68                                 | 210.60    | 272.53    | 275.44    | 308.40    |
| Irvington               | 249.05                                 | 207.05    | 253.33    | 281.97    | 337.56    |
| Niles                   | 223.43                                 | 261.07    | 285.94    | 338.58    | 363.23    |
| Warm Springs            | 296.60                                 | 280.05    | 405.30    | 461.00    | 500.04    |
| High School District    | \$ 367.29                              | \$ 389.47 | \$ 419.92 | \$ 477.63 | \$ 553.32 |





TABLE 6

Sources of School District Budgeted Funds for Current Expenditures for  
the School Year 1962-63 by Existing Districts in the Proposed  
Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles, Warm Springs Unified District

| Name of School District       | Local       | %    | State       | %    | Federal   | %   | Misc.    | %  | Totals      |
|-------------------------------|-------------|------|-------------|------|-----------|-----|----------|----|-------------|
| Elementary Districts          |             |      |             |      |           |     |          |    |             |
| Alviso                        | \$ 83,640   | 37.4 | \$ 133,880  | 59.9 | \$ 6,000  | 2.7 |          |    | \$ 223,520  |
| Centerville                   | 279,747     | 24.6 | 832,000     | 73.2 | 23,325    | 2.1 | \$ 1,000 | .1 | \$1,136,072 |
| Irvington                     | 814,868     | 25.3 | 2,316,763   | 71.6 | 100,000   | 3.0 | 2,000    | .1 | 3,233,631   |
| Niles                         | 197,400     | 42.5 | 263,300     | 56.6 | 3,200     | .7  | 1,100    | .2 | 465,000     |
| Warm Springs                  | 86,275      | 51.7 | 76,690      | 45.9 | 3,000     | 1.8 | 1,000    | .6 | 166,965     |
| Total                         | \$1,461,930 | 28.0 | \$3,622,633 | 69.3 | \$135,525 | 2.6 | \$ 5,100 | .1 | \$5,225,188 |
| Total High<br>School District | \$1,890,500 | 55.5 | \$1,410,479 | 41.4 | \$ 80,000 | 2.3 | \$27,600 | .8 | \$3,408,579 |





## REVIEW OF THE WASHINGTON UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT AREA STUDY

Beginning on June 23, 1953, a series of informal discussions as groups of individuals interested in the problem of school district boundaries were held. Participants were the representatives of the school district, the county, and the state department of education. The purpose of these discussions was to determine the feasibility of a study of the Washington Union High School District.

On December 3, 1953 the Washington Township School Board Conference on School District Boundaries was held at Washington Union High School. This conference was attended by a representative of the Washington Union High School District, the County Board of Education, and the State Department of Education. The purpose of the conference was to determine the feasibility of a study of the Washington Union High School District. The participants discussed the problem of school district boundaries and the need for a study of the Washington Union High School District. The participants agreed to hold a public hearing on the problem of school district boundaries in January 1954.

January 15, 1954. A public hearing was held on the problem of school district boundaries in the Washington Union High School District. The hearing was held at the Washington Union High School. The purpose of the hearing was to determine the feasibility of a study of the Washington Union High School District. The participants discussed the problem of school district boundaries and the need for a study of the Washington Union High School District. The participants agreed to hold a public hearing on the problem of school district boundaries in January 1954.

January 27, 1954. The County Board of Education held a public hearing on the problem of school district boundaries in the Washington Union High School District. The hearing was held at the Washington Union High School. The purpose of the hearing was to determine the feasibility of a study of the Washington Union High School District. The participants discussed the problem of school district boundaries and the need for a study of the Washington Union High School District. The participants agreed to hold a public hearing on the problem of school district boundaries in January 1954.

## REVIEW OF THE WASHINGTON UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT AREA STUDY

February 10, 1954. The County Board of Education held a public hearing on the problem of school district boundaries in the Washington Union High School District. The hearing was held at the Washington Union High School. The purpose of the hearing was to determine the feasibility of a study of the Washington Union High School District. The participants discussed the problem of school district boundaries and the need for a study of the Washington Union High School District. The participants agreed to hold a public hearing on the problem of school district boundaries in January 1954.

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March 10, 1954. The Washington Township School Board held a public hearing on the problem of school district boundaries in the Washington Union High School District. The hearing was held at the Washington Union High School. The purpose of the hearing was to determine the feasibility of a study of the Washington Union High School District. The participants discussed the problem of school district boundaries and the need for a study of the Washington Union High School District. The participants agreed to hold a public hearing on the problem of school district boundaries in January 1954.

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## REVIEW OF THE WASHINGTON UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT AREA STUDY

Beginning on June 23, 1955, a series of informal discussions on general administrative problems, but emphasizing those associated with school district organization, was held. Participants were the superintendents of the school districts in the area and representatives of the State Department of Education and the County School Department.

On December 3, 1955 the Washington Township School Boards Conference on Education was held at Washington Union High School. This conference was modeled after a White House Conference on Education in Washington and the Governor's Conference on Education in Sacramento the same year. One of the conference section meetings was on school district organization and those attending expressed a concensus favoring the unified pattern of school district organization for the area of the Washington Union High School District. Two petitions from residents of the Washington area were presented at the County Committee's meeting of January 10, 1956. One petition asked for study of the formation of a single district of Alvarado, Alviso, Decoto, and Niles. The other suggested study of unifying all or part of the high school district.

January 25, 1956. A public hearing was held on the two petitions that had been presented at the January 10 meeting. About 200 people attended. Opinions seemed to be quite evenly divided as to whether school district organization should be studied formally at that time. For further evidence of local feelings, the County Committee wrote to all school and parent organizations in the area. The replies were almost unanimous in opposing a study. It was decided not to undertake one.

November 27, 1956. The County Committee received a petition to study school district organization in the area of La Vista, Decoto, and Alvarado School Districts.

August 1956. The Newark City Council appointed a local committee to study school district organization in Newark. This committee reached its conclusions in January 1957 and recommended that the County Committee be petitioned to initiate a study.

February 27, 1957. A public hearing was held on the petition to study the area of Alvarado, Decoto, and La Vista School Districts. Following the hearing, it was decided to study the area.

March 20, 1957. The Augmented Committee for Study of the Alvarado, Decoto, and La Vista area found that the principal reason for requesting study of the area was to effect boundary adjustments between Decoto and La Vista School Districts. The Augmented Committee concluded that this problem could be more easily handled as part of the Hayward Area Study and it was agreed that there would be no separate study of the Alvarado, Decoto, La Vista area.

April 17, 1957. The County Committee considered a petition from ten citizens of Newark. It requested a study of the possibility of organizing a unified school district in the area of Newark and adjacent territory west of the freeway. A public hearing was set for May 8.

May 8, 1957. A public hearing was held on a petition to study Newark School District and adjacent area west of the freeway. About 80 people attended the







hearing and all who expressed themselves were in favor of having a study made.

May 15, 1957. The County Committee reviewed proceedings of the May 8 public hearing and decided to form an augmented committee to undertake a study of the area.

June 5, 1957. The Augmented Committee for Study of the Newark, Irvington, and Alviso Area met, but found it impossible to define the area to be studied or to conclude that they could study the area without also considering the possible effects on the remainder of the Washington Union High School District. The County Committee, therefore, decided to ask all school boards of the high school district area to send their administrators to an informal conference.

August 21, 1957. The County Committee met with the administrators of all school districts in the area of the Washington Union High School District. This conference made even more evident the difficulty of taking any part of the Washington Union High School District area to study as an isolated unit.

September 18, 1957. The County Committee met and took formal action to expand the area under study to that of the entire Washington Union High School District. All trustees of the area were notified that they had become members of the Augmented Committee.

February 26, 1958. The Augmented County Committee for Study of the Area of the Washington Union High School District held its first meeting. A quorum was present. Steps in studying school district organization were discussed and the merits of unification were cited. Representatives of several school districts said that they and their fellow board members were in favor of studying the area. One or two reported that their boards had taken no stand on the question, but no one opposed the study. It was decided that the superintendents would constitute a research subcommittee and advance the study until such time as the need for outside consultants might become apparent.

April 23, 1958. This was not an official meeting of the Augmented Committee since a quorum was lacking. However, a report from the committee of administrators was presented. The school districts of the area were grouped in the report into five possible unified districts:

District A: Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Mission San Jose, Niles and Warm Springs

District B: Newark

District C: Alvarado and Decoto

District D: All districts except Newark

District E: All districts

June 30, 1958. The Augmented Committee met with a quorum present. It was reported that the research subcommittee had met almost every week for several months to prepare the data requested by the Augmented Committee. The information was discussed and the method of voting on a recommendation to the State Board of Education was explained.







July 23, 1958. The Augmented County Committee met with a quorum present. A letter from Centerville School District was read urging further study of the area before deciding upon recommendations for any changes. It listed a number of questions on which further information should be gathered. A letter was read from Newark School District asking "favorable action on unification of the Newark School District." Following a discussion of the various areas on which data had been compiled, recommendations were suggested and voted upon. The Augmented Committee voted against recommending Newark for a unified district; voted against recommending that all the area except Newark become a unified district; and voted in favor of a recommendation to the State Board of Education that the entire area become one unified school district.

August 8, 1958. A public hearing was held on the recommendation to form one unified school district of the area of the Washington Union High School District. The hearing was conducted by Donald S. Bragg, Vice-chairman of the County Committee, with two other members of the committee present. They were Mary G. Rodrigues and Roy B. Jensen.

August 14, 1958. The Newark City Council passed a resolution questioning the legality of the public hearing of August 8 (which had been conducted by less than a quorum of the committee) and requesting the State Board of Education to "refer the recommendation of the Alameda County Committee on School District Organization back to said County Committee for further study and for the purpose of holding a public hearing in accordance with Section 4902.1 of the Education Code. . ." and asking that "the State Board of Education further recommend to the County Committee on School District Organization of Alameda County that it examine the boundaries and consequences of unification of the area within Washington Township and more particularly to reconsider permitting and recommending that the Newark School District be a unified school district."

October 22, 1958. The County Committee met and discussed the suggestion that a quorum of the committee conduct another public hearing, since the legality of the August 8 hearing had been questioned. The suggestion had come from the administrative advisor to the State Board of Education. The County Committee agreed that a quorum would hold another hearing on December 3 and that the Augmented Committee would be reconvened immediately following the hearing. Also at the Committee's meeting of October 22, a letter from the Newark City Council Committee on School District Organization was read asking that the County Committee "withhold action on the present unification study with respect to a final decision or determination in this matter", pending the completion of a professional survey that was then being planned by the Newark Council Committee. The Committee decided that action on this request would be the prerogative of the Augmented Committee and not of the County Committee.

November 19, 1958. The County Committee met and decided to postpone the proposed December 3 public hearing until January 21, 1959, because it was felt that the outcome of an election to form Union City on January 13 would have an important influence on the views of the people of that area on school district organization.

January 21, 1959. A public hearing was held with a quorum of 20 of a total of 21 votes of the Augmented Committee represented. Dr. G. E. Dickerson, a member of the Washington Union High School District Board, asked whether consolidation of elementary districts according to attendance areas of existing and proposed high schools should not be considered as an intermediate step to unification. Resolutions requesting the County Committee to reverse its decision of July 23, 1958 and give the







area further study were submitted by Decoto School District, Newark School District, and a number of Newark community groups. Ellsworth Finlay, a member of the Centerville School District Board, stated that that board was not against unification in principle, but feared that at the present time it would hinder the building programs of the rapidly-growing elementary districts and of the Washington Union High School District.

January 21, 1959. The Augmented Committee convened immediately following the public hearing with 20 votes of a total of 21 represented. A vote was taken on the following question: "Shall the recommendation, approved by majority vote of this Augmented Committee on July 23, 1958, that a unified school district be formed comprising the area of the Washington Union High School District be reaffirmed?" By a vote of 12 to 8 the Augmented Committee decided not to reaffirm its recommendation of July 23, 1958.

March 18, 1959. The Augmented Committee met with a quorum of 15 of a total of 21 votes represented. Mary Rodrigues, a member of the County Committee and of the Centerville School District Board, reported on a series of meetings of administrators and board members to explore the possibility of combining the nine elementary districts into three or four union elementary districts. Statistical reports were presented for Decoto and Alvarado, for Newark, and for Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Mission San Jose, Niles, and Warm Springs. It was pointed out that projections of enrollment in the Union City, Fremont, and Newark areas showed that all would be large enough to become adequate unified school districts within seven or eight years.

April 15, 1959. The Augmented Committee met with a quorum of 16 of 21 votes represented. Mrs. Rodrigues reported that the representatives of the six school districts in Fremont had voted 5 to 1 to ask the Augmented Committee to recommend that they become one union elementary school district. It was moved and seconded that a recommendation be made to the State Board of Education that Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Mission San Jose, Niles, and Warm Springs become one union elementary school district. The motion was approved by 13 affirmative votes. It was reported that no decision had been made on the unionization of Decoto and Alvarado School Districts.

June 3, 1959. A public hearing was held on the proposed formation of a union elementary district in Fremont. Ten votes of a total of 17 on the Augmented Committee were represented. Ralph Baxter, a member of the Irvington School District Board, expressed some concern about a possible delay in the building program in his district in the course of unionization. A representative of the Fremont League of Women Voters said that they favored forming the proposed union elementary school district but intended to continue study of the eventual possibility of unification.

June 3, 1959. The Augmented Committee convened following the public hearing and reaffirmed its recommendation of April 15. Ten affirmative votes were cast.

July 10, 1959. The State Board of Education approved the Committee's recommendation to form one union elementary district of the six Fremont elementary school districts. Subsequently, the date of November 10, 1959 was set for the election.

November 10, 1959. An election was held on the proposal to form a union elementary district of the six districts in the city of Fremont. It was voted down in four of the six districts and the two in which it was approved were not contiguous.







November 2, 1960. Dr. Harold Schoenfeld, Superintendent of the Decoto School District, and William Koller, Superintendent of the Washington Union High School District, reported renewed interest in studying school district organization in the Washington High School District area. Plans for organizing a large committee of lay citizens to study school district organization were outlined. It was agreed that school board members in the Washington area would notify the County Committee chairman when a joint meeting of the citizens committee and the Augmented Committee could be arranged.

January 31, 1961. The Augmented Committee for Study of the Washington High School Area convened with a quorum of 17 of a total of 21 votes represented. The purpose of the meeting was to hear a report from the Washington Township Unification Study Committee. It was reported that the superintendents of the school districts in the area had been asked to compile information for the following possible unified districts: (1) the entire Washington High School District; (2) three unified districts of approximately the same areas as the three cities in Washington Township; (3) a Newark unified district; (4) a south Fremont unified district, including Irvington, Mission San Jose, and Warm Springs; (5) a north Fremont unified district, including Niles, Centerville, and Alviso.

May 31, 1961. The Augmented Committee for Study of the Washington Area met with a quorum of 16 of a total of 21 votes represented. Reports were heard from several of the subcommittees of the Washington Township Unification Study Committee. These recommended the employment of an outside consultant to complete the study of the area. It was reported that Dr. Edgar L. Morphet would be available to assist in such a study and that the estimated cost for professional services would be \$5,600. Subsequently, the school boards of the area agreed to share the cost of employing Dr. Morphet and his colleague, Dr. Theodore L. Reller, as consultants.

January 25, 1962. The Augmented Committee met with a quorum present. Eighteen votes of a total of 20 were represented. A progress report from the Washington Township Unification Study Committee was given by Dr. Theodore L. Reller. Dr. Reller explained that the aim was a report that would reflect the combined judgment of the committee members and the consultants. He said that the Unification Study Committee and the consultants had agreed that the patterns of school district organization to be considered would be based on school district rather than city boundaries. He distributed statistical data on three possible patterns of unification: (1) one district for the entire area of the Washington Union High School District, (2) three unified districts including the area of these groups of elementary school districts: (a) Alvarado, Alviso, and Decoto; (b) Niles, Centerville, Irvington, and Warm Springs; (c) Newark; (3) the same as pattern number 2 except that Niles would be grouped with Alvarado, Alviso, and Decoto.

May 31, 1962. The Augmented Committee met with a quorum of 19 of a total of 20 votes represented. Dr. Edgar L. Morphet and Dr. Theodore L. Reller presented the report they had prepared for the Washington Township Unification Study Committee. Excerpts from the written report were read, concluding with the recommendation that two possibilities be considered: (1) a unified district to include the entire Township, and as a second choice, (2) two unified districts, one to comprise Decoto, Alvarado, Alviso and Newark, the other to include Centerville, Niles, Irvington, and Warm Springs. Resolutions were read from the Board of Trustees of Newark School District and the City Council of Newark urging the formation of a unified school district of the area of the Newark School District.







It was reported that the League of Women Voters of Fremont recommended the formation of one unified district of the area of the Washington Union High School District. A motion to make a tentative recommendation for the formation of a unified district of Newark was defeated by a vote of 10 to 2. A motion that a tentative recommendation be made for the formation of a unified district of Alvarado, Decoto, Newark and that part of Alviso west of the freeway was defeated by a vote of 10 to 5. A motion to make a tentative recommendation for the formation of a unified district comprising Centerville, Niles, Irvington, and Warm Springs Elementary School Districts was defeated by a vote of 11 to 4. A motion to make a tentative recommendation for the formation of a unified district of the entire area of the high school district was approved by a vote of 14 to 5.

July 19, 1962. A public hearing was held on the tentative recommendation to form one unified school district of the entire area of the Washington Union High School District. Sixteen votes of a total of twenty on the Augmented Committee were represented at the hearing. Statements from the Decoto School District Board of Trustees and from representatives of various community groups favored the formation of a unified district of Decoto, Alvarado, Newark, and the western portion of Alviso School District. Strong support was given to the recommended formation of a unified district of Newark School District alone. It was pointed out that such a district would be larger than half of California's present unified districts. Dr. Holger Rasmussen, a member of the Centerville School District Board, said that that board had concluded that they could not vote for a single large unified district and that it was doubtful that unification at this time would be in the best interests of the people of the Centerville School District or of the entire Washington Union High School District. Dr. G. E. Dickerson, a member of the Washington Union High School District Board of Trustees, spoke in favor of forming one unified district of the entire area.

July 19, 1962. The Augmented Committee, with 16 votes of a total of 20 represented, convened immediately following the public hearing and decided to hold another public hearing on October 18.

October 18, 1962. A second public hearing was held on the tentative recommendation of May 31 to form a single unified district of the area of the Washington Union High School District. Strong support was indicated for the formation of three unified districts; (1) Newark; (2) Alvarado and Decoto; (3) Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles, and Warm Springs. James Nunes, Superintendent of Alviso School District, and Dr. G. E. Dickerson, a member of the Washington High School District Board, made statements in favor of forming one large unified school district rather than three smaller ones.

October 18, 1962. The Augmented Committee was convened immediately following the public hearing with a quorum of 18 votes of a total of 20 represented. A motion to modify the tentative recommendation of May 31 for the formation of one large unified district was approved by a vote of 16 to 2. A motion to make a final recommendation for a Newark unified school district was approved by 7 affirmative votes. A final recommendation for the formation of a unified district of Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles, and Warm Springs School Districts was approved by 12 affirmative votes. A motion to make a final recommendation for a unified district of Alvarado and Decoto School Districts was approved by 11 affirmative votes.







March 7, 1963. The Augmented Committee convened with a quorum of 19 of a total of 20 votes represented and approved for each of the three proposed unified school districts supplemental recommendations on trustees, trustee areas, maximum tax rate, assumption of bonded debt, division of property, and location of schools.

May 23-24, 1963. The State Board of Education considered but did not approve the recommendations for the proposed three unified school districts.

June 17, 1963. The State Board of Education addressed a letter to the County Committee officially notifying it of the Board's action and listing six reasons. These were in brief:

1. Two of the districts would not meet standards for size.
2. The high school program would be disrupted.
3. The inadequate districts would tend to perpetuate themselves.
4. There was insufficient evidence that the entire area could not become one unified district.
5. Fragmentation of the high school district's tax base would be undesirable.
6. There would not be appreciably greater equalization of local wealth at the elementary level.

August 1, 1963. The Augmented Committee convened with a quorum of 14 of a total of 20 votes represented. The State Board of Education's letter of June 17 was discussed. A motion was made to recommend that the entire area become one unified district but died for lack of a second. It was decided that the meeting be adjourned to be reconvened on August 7, 1963.

August 7, 1963. The Augmented Committee reconvened its meeting that was adjourned temporarily on August 1. A quorum was present, with 12 of a total of 20 votes represented. A motion was made to resubmit unchanged the April 1963 recommendation for the formation of a unified district of the area of the Newark School District. It was seconded and received the necessary seven affirmative votes. A quorum was not present to consider re-submission of the recommendations for a unified district of Alvarado and Decoto. It was evident, without taking a ballot, that there was insufficient support at this meeting for resubmitting recommendations for the unification of Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles and Warm Springs.

August 29, 1963. The Augmented Committee convened with a quorum of seventeen of a total of twenty votes represented. A motion was made to submit unchanged the April 1963 recommendation for the formation of a unified district of the area of the Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles and Warm Springs School Districts. The motion was seconded and received thirteen "yes" votes, and two "no" votes. Two members of the Augmented Committee were absent. A motion was made to resubmit unchanged the April 1963 recommendation for the formation of a unified district of the area of the Alvarado and Decoto School Districts. The motion was seconded and received 11 "yes" votes, and no "no" votes. Three members of the Augmented Committee were absent.

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